

REMARKS

Claims 1, 8, and 15 are amended herein. Claims 1 through 20 remain pending in the present case.

Regarding Hashimoto (5,784,132) in view of Taniguchi (4,824,212)

Applicant respectfully states that the amended Independent Claims 1, 9, and 15 include the limitation "wherein each dummy pixel is analogous to a pixel of said matrix but without containing any active element and not capable of modification, and wherein said dummy pixels allow light to pass through to improve contrast of edge-displayed images of said matrix." This limitation is supported in the specification in numerous places including page 23 lines 11-13. This limitation is not taught or rendered obvious in view of the combination of Hashimoto and Taniguchi.

Applicant agrees with the rejection that Hashimoto does not disclose the dummy pixels allowing light to pass through to improve contrast of edge-displayed images. However, Applicant disagrees that Taniguchi does disclose dummy pixels as claimed.

In the Specification of the present Application, specifically pages 16-17, 18, and 20, a dummy pixel is described. For example, on page 16 starting at line 26, "the pixels of the border region 312 are called "dummy" pixels because they do not have a controllable element therein"(emphasis added). Therefore, Applicant respectfully states that the dummy pixels of Claim 1 are not obvious in view of Taniguchi since Taniguchi explicitly discloses independently controlling, e.g.,

modulating, picture elements of the non-display region. The ability of Taniguchi to explicitly control the picture elements of the non-display region teaches away from the claimed dummy pixel that does not have a controllable element therein and which cannot be independently controlled and is therefore not capable of modification. Applicant respectfully states that Taniguchi teaches away from the use of dummy pixels as claimed in the present invention and instead teaches toward a controllable pixel configuration quite unlike the claimed embodiments. Therefore, Applicant respectfully states that Taniguchi does not teach nor render obvious a dummy pixel as claimed since Taniguchi teaches controllable pixels.

Additionally, by using dummy pixels having no controllable elements therein the circuitry and manufacturing processes of the present application are reduced as is the power consumption of the display unit. Therefore, Applicant respectfully states that Hashimoto in view of Taniguchi do not teach or render obvious or appreciate the problems addressed by the embodiments of Independent Claims 1, 8, and 15.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Independent Claims 1, 8, and 15 are in condition for allowance. Additionally, Claims 2-7 are dependent on Independent Claim 1, Claims 10-14 are dependent on Independent Claim 8, and Claims 16-20 are dependent on Independent Claim 15. Accordingly, Applicant also respectfully submits that Claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

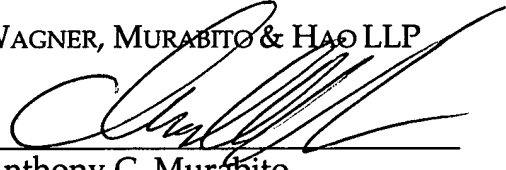
Based on the amendments and arguments presented above, Applicant respectfully asserts that Claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance and, therefore, Applicant respectfully solicits allowance of these Claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Date: 2/24/2007

Respectfully submitted,

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